

NEWS & LETTERS

"This Paper Belongs to the People Who Read It and Write for It"

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By CHARLES DENBY

We Can Learn From Local 212's Election

To me, the recent election at Chrysler Local 212, was a crucial one and had lots of different aspects. Different from the way I have seen other elections at the plant.

Because the leaders of the Rank & File caucus were the same kind as the leaders of Reuther's Green Slate caucus—with the same thoughts and understanding, or lack of understanding, of the problems that workers face—they couldn't see the problems of the shop.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Workers see it, they know it. They say what's the difference? All of the questions the workers raise—the question of speed-up, Automation, the question of representation at production—the leaders of the Rank & File caucus never put out one thing in regard to taking up any of these things the workers wanted. I know, from discussing with groups of workers, they understand these leaders and their maneuvers much better than the leaders will ever think in understanding workers.

Many workers wished for a clean sweep of the Reutherites, especially those at the Mack Avenue plant, one of the largest plants of Local 212. It wasn't a clean sweep. But neither was it a failure such as they have gone through in the last 7 or 8 years. They won most of the shop committee but only one on the executive board.

A worker told me, "If you examine how many workers, 400 to 500, were at the Rank & File meetings before and after the election for delegates to the convention, these workers felt that it was a rank and file caucus, a workers' caucus."

"But as I sat there, and I saw how Buckley operated, after he became chairman of the Rank & File caucus I didn't see a bit of difference between him and Pat Caruso. The last meeting a worker in the front row held up his hand for practically 20 minutes and Buckley would look down and around and call on everybody but this worker. That's the way the others have been running Union meetings for years."

BEFORE AND AFTER

"Before Buckley got to be caucus chairman, Blackwell, a Negro worker, was chairman. We were coming then. But do you know what size the last caucus meeting was just before the election? If you look at it, if you had 500 people 2 months before, by the week before the election you should have had a couple of thousand. But instead, the last meeting had 100 or 75 people."

That's what these leaders didn't see. They never recognized it and didn't know it until today. It's all a question of vote-getting to them.

We have to understand why three-quarters of the people dropped off. They are the ones we have to learn from. Not that you don't learn from those that stayed. But the most important core is the three-quarters that dropped off. Especially when they didn't drop off to run over to the Reutherites.

We have to learn and see clearly what they mean when they say, "Well there is no difference there." They are not going to go into all the details. The resentment is there. There is going to be a total rebellion against the Reutherite leadership and at the same time against the leadership of the Rank & File caucus.

FOR A NEW PERSPECTIVE

I know some workers are let down by the election results, but they have to have a conception of the future.

The best I got out of all of it—I spoke to one worker, who called 5 others over and said, "You know what I think about this election more than anything else? This little paper NEWS & LETTERS that has been passed out here. It has meant more to me and to the workers in the trim shop than anything else in this election. It said and expressed more. That's what we have been talking about in the trim shop. That cartoon in the last issue where Reuther is booting the production worker in his rear, expressed the truth, the life of the leader towards us."

That got me. He's in the midst of an election, participating in a campaign. If the leaders had represented anything to him, he would have said, "We were talking about the leaders and the campaign we're going through." Instead, he said, "We have been talking all the time about News & Letters."

Everyone understands that you go from this leader to that one, and when you find they are the same you drop them. You have no illusions. But, when you can see other rank and file workers telling you, "One of the biggest things that made me participate in this election has been News & Letters," the perspectives have to be higher.

Not higher in the sense that we're glad the Rank & File got 5 on the committee and the Reutherites got 3, because we can be just as let down with these 5 as with the others. It is a new perspective we have to look at: What the workers say and want to do in the shop.



Our Future & Our Children's...

The popular protest against H-Bomb tests has highlighted the whole question of war and peace.

After a series of last-minute postponements because the weather was not "quite right," the United States, last month, exploded one more bomb in Nevada. It was the 45th exploded into the air over Nevada since 1951, when the race with Russia dictated a U. S. decision to test its bombs right on American soil instead of in the Pacific, in order to "save time."

In spite of all the much-publicized "precautions," and all the "experience" of those in charge, the fall-out did not fall "quite right."

The Atomic Energy Commission was quick to assure the public that there was "no danger." But the people of Nevada were not reassured. Nor did they need this last "miscalculation" to convince them of the mockery of such reassurances.

SILENT DEATH

Last month, just before the new series was scheduled to begin, a well-documented report of the already shocking effects of the previous tests in Nevada was published in *The Reporter*. According to that report, the people living in Nevada and Utah, near the

test site, "regard the Atomic Energy Commission as an army of occupation." The facts surrounding the death, from leukemia, of an 8-year old boy who lived about 100 miles from the site, were described in detail. His mother believes he died because of the tests, and his doctor also

stated that his death "may have resulted from the atomic explosions in southern Nevada."

AMERICAN PROTEST

The report continued with the case histories of a woman living just outside the area who has contracted cancer; of many who have lost all the hair on their bodies; and of the death of thousands of sheep grazing near the test-site. The people in that area are convinced that all these cases are the result of the heavy local fall-out from the tests. Yet, despite their heavy protest and alarm at continued tests, the AEC has continued to insist that the nuclear explosions are not responsible, and that there was and is now "no danger." The plans for the tests are continuing, and the protests are continually growing stronger.

When Britain, third to enter the nuclear race between Russia and the United States, first announced its intention of exploding a bomb at Christmas Island in the Pacific, Japanese fishermen immediately announced their intention to sail into the area, to demonstrate their protest and attempt to halt the explosion. When Britain detonated her blast nevertheless, huge student demonstrations in Japan (where protests against Russian explosions have been continuous) further emphasized the strong popular protest to tests by any nation.

FANTASTIC RACE

Caught in the middle of the fantastic race by the great powers to destroy the (Continued on Page 8)

To Friends & Readers of News & Letters:

You may have wondered that News and Letters has been delayed in reaching you. With this issue we temporarily go on a monthly basis. We hope and fully expect to be able to resume publication every two weeks after Labor Day. But we cannot minimize the problem. Your subscriptions and contributions are needed to maintain this workers' paper.

Today, when production workers and their families are fighting back against the unemployment and abuse management is forcing upon them with Automation—and despite the arrogant pressure of the labor bureaucracy which has abandoned the rank and file, organized and unorganized—News & Letters is the only paper where they can read and report the truth of their own lives.

Today, when Negroes of the deepest ranks are standing forth, with courage and dignity, for the rights of man against the race-haters and would-be tyrants, their stories appear here.

In ever growing numbers, particularly in the last several months, people in all walks of life recognize News & Letters as a vital part of their unending efforts to be free. People who have least to spend give the most to support our paper. More is needed. We need new subscribers and new contributors. Give what you can. If you have friends who do not yet subscribe, ask them to—or subscribe for them.

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COAL AND ITS PEOPLE

IT'S EASY TO DIE

Working with the Continuous Miner

West Virginia—We were on this pillar section, working with the continuous miner. This day, it was on a Thursday, me and my buddy felt kind of funny when we were working. Nothing definite that you could put your finger on, just that we seemed to get tired a little quicker than we usually did. We just passed it off as just one of those days and let it go at that.

BLACK DAMP

The next day, we went to work as usual, expecting things to be the same as usual. Instead of feeling any better, we felt worse. We became very short of breath and the sweat popped out all over us when we did things that required very little effort. We know that something was wrong—very wrong.

We went looking for our section boss and found him with two safety lamps, testing for gas. The lamps were slowly going out. We knew what this meant. Black damp. Poison gas taking the oxygen from the air.

The boss said that we should put up a piece of canvas to direct the air to the place where the gas was detected. He started to take off for the canvas, leaving the continuous miner operator and the mechanic with the machine, which was up at the face. We reminded him that those men were up there and that he'd better get them out of there before he did anything. Black damp is nothing to fool around with.

He did call the men out, and also called the pit-boss to tell him that he was getting a liberation of some kind that was giving him trouble.

PIT-BOSS MESSES UP

We got a piece of canvas up, directing the air to where the gas was most noticeable from the lamp tests. But then the pit-boss got there. He checked with his light, said there was nothing there. He checked again when we said there was. This time his light went out. So there was something there. He was going to take care of it.

Now here is the man who is supposed to know ventilation, not only of that section, but the whole mine. And the section boss is supposed to know the ventilation of his section. But what does the pit-boss do? He takes another piece of canvas and puts it up in the cross-cut where the air is coming into the section. He blocked it all off! And the section boss was with him when he did it.

GAS SPREADS BACK

We said we were going to eat while the gas was being "cleared" out. Only we didn't go to eat at our regular dinner hole close to the face. We went back plenty far, back to the bottom of the hill that started into our section.

We ate and started back to the face, but testing all the way. Our lights went out before we were halfway back to the face. The black damp was spreading back through the section.

WHO WILL GET THE CANVAS?

The pit-boss was called again. He said that by now the gas was all gone. He just knew it. When he got to the section, he was going to show us. He started toward the face, holding his burning lamp before him.

"See," he said. "There's nothing here. I told you guys. What's the matter with you . . ." And here, he stopped. His light was out. He made it back to where we were in nothing flat. "I guess you're right," he said. "That stuff is still there. More of it." He was giving us some news.

The trouble was explained to him. He had blocked off the air. "So," he said, "all we've got to do is get that piece of canvas down." That was all. I wasn't going up there. None of us men were. That left the section boss and

the pit-boss. The pit-boss finally said that he would run up and pull it down. He didn't get any arguments. He got about half way up, turned around and ran back. No. He wasn't going to do it either.

We didn't get it cleared out, and they worked on it Saturday and Sunday. It wasn't until Monday that they finally got the section clear enough for us to work.

EASY TO DIE

You think about things like that for a long time. It would have been awfully easy for all of us to be dead right now. We always say that we have to look out for ourselves, and that is true. But on a continuous miner section, where the company just keeps hogging and pushing for coal and more coal, you've got to look out for yourself more than ever. If you don't, no one else will.

BACK IN THE "FREE WHEELING DAYS"

I remember one boss I had once at one of the mine's that's still working down here. I had worked under this same boss at an open shop mine, back in the "free wheeling days." They were all free-wheeling in those times. He used to sit on the bottom and stop the men as they came out. If a man went in at 4 in the morning and came out at 6 at night he'd still stop them and ask if they had cleaned up all the work. If they hadn't finished all there was to do, he'd tell them to go back and finish, or bring out their tools. He was a mean-son-of-a-gun, with a big belly—and he hadn't changed a bit when I ran into him as the boss at this union nine years later.

BOSS'S SON

He had managed to get his son hired at the mine, as a mechanic. He was no more a mechanic than a man off the street, but he was the boss's son, so he got in.

I was running a motor at that time, and one day the motor broke down. I just let her coast to a stop, and called the boss. The old man came running up and asked me what the trouble was. I said, "It just stopped, how should I know? Call the mechanic, it's his job."

I knew all the while what was wrong, but I sure wasn't going to tell him. So he called

his son, and they went to work on it. That boy fooled around with the motor for three hours, while I was taking it easy doing some other hand-work up the way a bit. I figured that was three hours I was off the machine, anyway.

When it was pretty close to quitting time, I came over to the son and said, "Want to know what's wrong with it?" He just stared at me, but his old man came running up and yelled, "What do you mean, do we want to know what's wrong with it?" I said, "I'm just asking you! Do you want to know, or not?"

UNION NOW

The boss started to get red and began to fume until I said, "Look, this is a union mine now, remember? And you got a mechanic. It's his job to fix the motor. But if you want to know, I'll tell you."

They wanted to know. So I told them. The only thing that was wrong with the motor was that the resistance was burned out. All it needed was a little splicing.

They probably would have liked to do plenty when I told them. But they couldn't do a thing, except fix it.

But, just imagine what would have happened if it had still been open-shop!

Ex-Miner
West Virginia

OPEN LETTER TO LOCAL 212 MEMBERS

I would like to take this opportunity to tell all the members of our Local about the raw deal that I got from Local officers, the ones our dues dollars support.

There was an ex-Mack Avenue employee who had been laid-off from an outside plant and was called back to Mack on 2081 code, one of the higher rated codes in the tool crib, department 34.

The youngest man on the code was supposed to be bumped, according to our contract with the company. But supervision tried to jump over the youngest man and bump the next lowest on the seniority list. We stopped this, but the man didn't want to bump this youngest man because the type of work was different from what he was accustomed to doing. So he took a lay-off.

CHANGED CODE

The next we knew of it, they had changed the code from straight 2081 to 2081A, 2081B, 2081C, 2081D, etc. For years we had one code. Then it was changed for the benefit of one man.

The ex-Mack employee was called back to Mack a second time. He jumped over the lowest seniority man and bumped the second lowest, just as supervision had tried the first time he was called back.

We called the shop committeeman and he told us this could not happen and that he would go and stop it. In a very few minutes he returned and told us that there was nothing he could

do, because the Local officers had changed the code to read, A, B, C, D, to cover the differences in the work.

We went to the Local and talked to Marshall Paggett. He told us that another employee by the name of Griffin (who was not even a steward) had told him that there was no one else that could do these jobs. So Paggett had recommended to Caruso (recent president of Local 212) and Czerwinski that the code be divided.

NO TIME

Next, I went to see Caruso, who said he did not have time to talk to me, but that if it concerned the 2081 code he had nothing to do with it. He said Paggett and Czerwinski had met with management and had changed it.

Now we all know that plenty of men have been called in and could not perform a certain job and had to take a lay-off because they did not know the job.

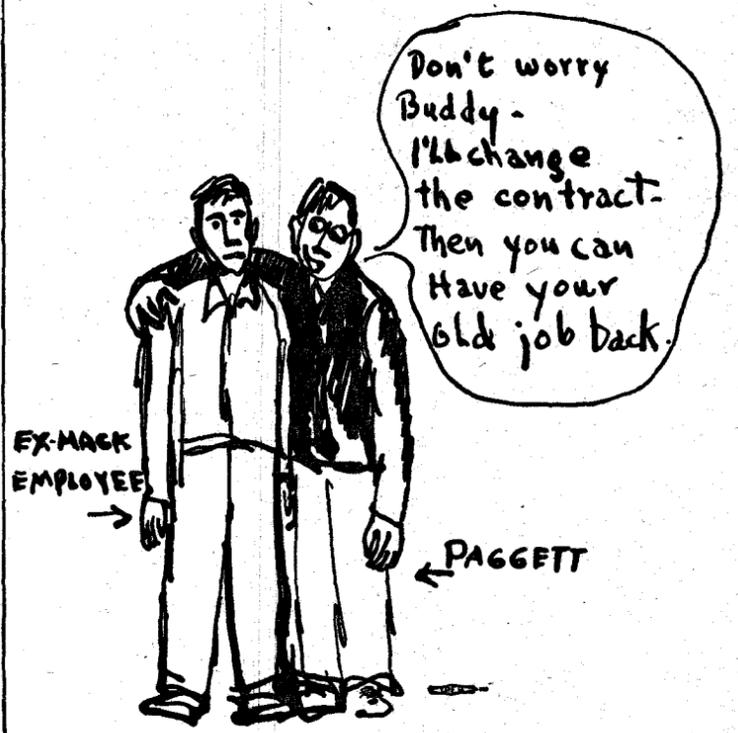
WHY?

If all types of work that are different are going to be classified A, B, C, D, etc., why has this not been done all through the shop? Spray painters have been called in on production, and because they could not perform certain operations were laid off. But no one ever changed their code to A, B, C, D. Why?

When we talked with Marshall Paggett he said, "I hope you don't make a political issue out of this."

So now that the election is over, I still ask—WHY?

—Member, Loc. 212
Detroit



When the German Miners' Wives Led Their Husbands' Strike

Right after World War II ended, and Germany was left in ruins, the German miners in the Ruhr Valley didn't know what was going to happen to them. They knew they had to fight back after the years of grinding terror Hitler had forced on them. But they were worried about the Allied policy which was stated as making industrial Germany a grazing field.

It was 1945 or 1946, and they kept talking among

themselves about striking the mines. They just talked and worried and didn't do a thing about it.

They didn't only talk about it among themselves, they carried the talk back home with them and discussed it with their wives time and again. But still they did nothing.

One morning, when the men woke up to go to work, they found that their wives weren't at home to fix their breakfast as usual. As they

were going to work, worried and puzzled, they found that this same thing had happened in each household. They didn't know what to make of it—until they came to the mines.

There, at the mines, the men found that their wives had all got up earlier that morning and had gone down to the mines and had thrown a picket line of their own around them.

The women had become so tired of hearing the men

talk about it—and they knew they couldn't see their men worry themselves into the grave—that they got together and, on their own, decided to organize the strike. They were the ones who manned the picket lines and shut the mines down.

Then the miners joined their wives, took over the lines, and kept the mines shut until they won their strike.

SOUTHERN WHITE WORKER SPEAKS UP:

How Can Reuther Claim to Help Negroes?

DETROIT—As I understand it, Walter Reuther has put a man on his payroll to put an article in the paper about how much the Green Slate has done for the colored people. I have no idea what this writer can write, and still tell the truth, for all the colored people that he has on his payroll are handcuffed, they do not have the privilege to speak their piece.

LILY-WHITE DEPTS.

Anyway, if he is so anxious to help the colored workers why doesn't he try to break up his lily-white departments? These are and always have been a sore spot between the skilled workers and the production workers. They have never given the production worker, white or colored, a chance to break into some of these departments.

I'm wondering if Reuther's man that's writing for him will tell what they did to the colored man that was in Memphis. The Harvester workers elected him to come to the 16th Convention as an alternate and after he got there, in the place of a white delegate who was killed a few days before, Reuther and the other boy didn't let him serve. This was the "democratic" way they handled the Convention.

I doubt whether they could say they had done anything to improve conditions for the colored people in any way. I can't see how the Green Slate can take any praise.

The colored people in the shop make their **OWN WAY**, and the other production workers that work around them help. If it hadn't been for the production workers, regardless of color, race, or creed, welding themselves together and organizing our union, we wouldn't be organized yet. If we had waited for a Reuther and HIS unionism to organize our union we would still be in the same condition as we were before.

THE "GREAT" ONES

During this campaign for the last local election, I overheard a Reutherite make the statement that they were great people, the ones that are handicapped, who have lost legs and arms, or have been shot, what great men they are. We wonder if they ever once thought of the men that walked picket lines day and night and sat down in the shops from two to three weeks at a time, colored and white. Not counting the black eyes and the knots on the heads.

In any part of organizing our union, if it hadn't been for these discarded people where would Walter Reuther be today? You never heard much about Reuther and these so-called Reutherites until the production workers organized their union. What praises could they take any more than the production workers? You

never hear anything about these leaders until they get in a position like Local 212 before the election when our president at that time asked for a strike vote and got it.

In all of my years in the factory, any time they ask the production workers for a strike vote they receive it overwhelmingly. But they use it for no good to the production worker. Will we get our men back that have been fired, as usual without pay and sometimes even without seniority rights? I think I can remember and prove one case where they wrote a letter to the company requesting that this man be put back to work and then he did not get his seniority rights. This man had to lose his seniority rights and vacation pay. The workers who know about this have strong feelings that Emil Mazey and the International staff were no help at all in this case. (See: "When 20 Years Isn't 20 Years," Page 7.)

BROTHERLY SPIRIT

If it wasn't for the production worker, white and colored, welding themselves together and organizing themselves and being brothers and feeling the brotherly spirit, the union never would have been organized. Then we were fighting for our rights which now seem to be getting taken away from us.

—Chrysler Production Worker

Lifting the Production Workers' Burden

DETROIT — Production workers have been waiting 10 years with a heavy burden on their shoulders and cowed down and handicapped, afraid to speak their piece for they had no backing. Last Thursday night the burden was lifted off of the rank and file workers. They were like a bird let out of a cage.

NEW DEAL

The new committeemen that had taken over the Monday before immediately went to work. There is a foreman in the trim shop that has a habit of shaking his finger in workers' faces, demanding and arguing with them. If a man said anything to him or pushed him back he would be fired.

A couple of times before this, this foreman has gotten men fired. We would have to lose time and wouldn't ever get them back.

Last Thursday night when he threw one of his fits, one of the boys told him not to point his finger in his face again. While he was talking to the superintendent, this line foreman kept arguing. The worker put the telephone down and turned around. The foreman shook his finger in his face again and the worker hit him. Immediately they carried him to the office and fired him.

FIRST TIME

They called the two new committeemen in and they put the man back to work.

This is the first time a man has been put back to work after being fired, without losing time, since Chrysler Corporation has taken over.

Production workers begin to feel that we have some one that will stand behind us instead of the company. The trim shop workers feel they have won a great victory; for it hasn't been very

long since we lost 4 men and had to lose a lot of time. All of us production workers had been called "damn monkeys" and every thing else a production worker should not be called by a Reutherite committeeman. This time the production workers were not mistreated in any way.

—Production Worker

Will Los Angeles UAW Local 216 Work With Detroit Local 212?

LOS ANGELES—In the elections at Local 216, of the South Gate General Motors assembly plant, almost all of the top officials of the Local were defeated. The old clique, however, retained control of the very important shop committee.

The election campaign was marked by a lot of heat and slander, mostly on the part of the old leaders. The men reacted against this smear campaign by voting for the opposition, who insisted that what they were for was more democracy in the Union and for more of a fighting spirit against the company.

WHAT'LL THEY DO?

However it remains to be seen what the new leaders will do. Most of them were closely linked with the policies of the old administration. The new president was formerly vice-president and shop committee chairman. Will they fight for the

point of their program which reads, "A production workers council to give voice to our problems"?

The new leadership of the Local also said, "Local 216 is not alone in their impatience with present leadership. Throughout the entire U.A.W. is a growing resentment against the 'foot-in-door' settlements and the desire for once, actually to nail down one major demand and not to be content with merely 'gaining the principle.'"

FOR SHORTER WEEK

"Will the present Local leaders work with the rank and file caucus of Local 212, Detroit, and really work for the shorter work week and not for the sell-out that Reuther is already preparing?"

The members of local 216 are looking at you, Charlie Adams and Don Taylor and Charlie Hall and Virgil Collins, and want some action, not sell-outs.

—Member, Local 216

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

CHRISTMAS IS SIX MONTHS AWAY

I am turning my column over this week to the wife of a production worker. What she speaks of is true. My husband has told me one story, that went through the plant one year, of a committeeman who collected for the fund. Before he was through he took some of the toys, sold them and made a little extra for himself.

Here is this mother's story:

* * *

Well, Christmas is just 6 months away. I have been wondering what Local 212 will do about the Christmas party that is supposed to be for the workers' children. Last year, if there were more than 2 children in a family, the rest could do without. They gave presents to just two of the children.

The first year was swell. They all got kinda equal.

They had the party at a theater, but that wasn't run like they wanted it. The next year it was at the Local, and they had picked who was to get presents.

My children didn't get any because of the way they worked. They had a bunch of children go and lay their things down and then get back in line, but they saw to it that they pushed the rest back when they got in line. So we left, and I've never given any more money for the Christmas fund.

It wasn't carried out right at all. Always before, my husband played a big part in getting the Christmas fund together, so everyone would get equal, but not any more. Never again, unless it changes hands.

—A Worker's Wife of Local 212

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

ONLY THE WORKING PEOPLE CAN SAVE US

In this country the individual is supposed to be the most important thing. They say that Communism subordinates the person to the State. In Russia I am sure this is true. But it is not so different here. The language is different but the philosophy is the same. In Russia production is geared to the State, here to Big Business. But it is production that is the most important to both, not the man, woman or child.

Edward R. Murrow presented to the nation, a few weeks back, 90 minutes on Automation. The voice for labor was Walter Reuther, who had another one of his plans for controlling and directing. This time it was Automation.

"SOME" LAID OFF

Not only did these "men of the future," bureaucrats, professors, young engineers, try to say they gave the working people the 8-hour day, but their concern for the individual is as nil as their Communist brothers. In speaking of lay-offs from Automation they say, "Well there will be some that will be laid off from the introduction of Automation, but not many."

Now, I was wishing that while those learned men were talking they could look into the eyes of one, just one of those 20,000 workers that Chrysler said were put out because of this modern-day progress. You must remember that behind each one of those 20,000 there might be 2, 3, or 4, depending on that job. These facts and figures may not be exactly accurate, but hungry people don't worry much about statistics.

So the precious status of the individual has become "some." And its meaning must be "not very important."

They say society now has to become based on leisure,

not work. They even give you a vision of their future, if you are lucky enough to get into one of their robot factories. They showed a picture of an Automation worker in a chemical plant. It was more what you imagine outer space planets to look like. Gigantic machines, and besides one of these machines "a worker" sat crumpled up next to it waiting in case this metal broke down in some way.

ROBOT PEOPLE

Man, they say, is more developed than other animals because of his brain. But he also has muscles and tendons that keep his body moving and which should be in tone for a healthy body and mind. If he has to sit crumpled up next to a machine those muscles will become loose, ugly, not able to work and the mind will become loose, dull and wasted. So these "brains" would have us become robot people. It is not a question of leisure, but of what happens to the work that men do.

The only thing that will save us is the fact that long before that stage the working people, even if no one else will, have to face these lay-offs. Each will be unable to think of himself as the "some" that will be out of a job. Only each worker is and can be concerned about his job and will force it out into the open.

Read . . .

"Scientists,

Civil Rights,

War & Peace"

. . . on Page 5

TAX BURDEN FALLS ON WORKERS

Every worker, man and woman, for the past several years has constantly worried over the burden of high taxes. Not only hasn't it lessened, it has increased day by day.

No worker ever thought that these taxes would increase to the point of interfering with Big Business and the industrialists. Today, the talk in the shops and communities of Michigan is that the high taxes are driving auto manufacturers out of this State, causing extra burdens and hardships to workers' families and communities.

Many are asking questions about the industrialists and auto manufacturers saying they can seek other places to ease their tax burdens, but there is no way out of it for a worker and his family. Some are saying that if this continues, they will be paying 50 per cent of their income for taxes in the next 4 or 5 years.

The hue and cry about taxes driving industry out of the State is the standard hypocritical argument the Republicans raise when they wish to avoid the employment of Unionized labor. Nor is this argument confined to Republicans alone, the Democrats use it for the same purposes.

A most glaring exposure of this hypocrisy is in the current tax legislation in the State of Michigan with its Republican Legislature and Democratic Governor. The new legislation is for the purpose of adding more taxes to cigarettes and other items of daily consumption.

Some workers say, "They claim we have to pay high taxes to help foreign aid." One worker said he could feel a little better if the working people in those foreign countries were receiving the aid, but it only goes to the big capitalists there.

"How can a worker," he asked, "feel he should pay when he knows what his taxes go for; only to make the rich people richer and working people poorer with added debts and burdens heavier day after day."

KHRUSHCHEV—HOLIER THAN THOU

The TV debut of Nikita S. Khrushchev was a huge success as far as TV personalities go. He looked and acted very much like an American businessman or politician explaining his policies to the country. He answered all questions with seeming frankness and in detail. The American TV staff who covered the affair were warm in their praise for the cooperation received from the Kremlin. It is that very touch, the similarity to the American technique, that makes this presentation so deceptive.

In answering questions, he blamed the United States for the continuing arms race. He stated that the U. S. threatens Russia, just as the U. S. blames Russia for threatening her. On disarmament he was able to point to concrete steps taken by Russia and ask with a straight face what steps the U. S. has taken.

It is easy to state that many of his arguments were phony, but the same arguments in American mouths are equally phony. It is quite impossible to argue on the same plane as the rulers of either country are doing at present. Eisenhower must have realized that in refusing to reply. The reply could not stand up in the face of the policies of either country.

Khrushchev never even mentioned the conditions of labor in Russia, and his questioners were content to leave the comparison between "free" labor and Russian labor for others to discuss. Eisenhower, too, would be in a poor position to compare life in the American factory with that of the Russian.

He was able to speak "in the name of Marxism" and assume the role of the leading exponent of Socialism only because he is aided in this deception by his American opponents. Actually, Marxism and Socialism are as far removed from the government of Russia and the Communist Party as is black from white. They are opposites. Both Russia and the United States are state capitalist regimes, seeking above all else to prevent workers from controlling their own destiny.

One thing emerges quite clearly. The Iron Curtain does not exist for the diplomats. Even the bloody counter-revolution carried out in Hungary by Russia emerged, for the diplomats, as just another point of contention in the cold war. The rulers of both countries are free to express their opinions through every means of communication, but the exchange of ideas between the workers of these countries is forbidden by both sides.

Yet, the truth is, only the working people of either country can bring about a lasting peace. Leaders of both countries discuss disarmament in London while Khrushchev claims a bomb big enough to melt the polar ice caps and Eisenhower refuses to stop bomb tests which over 2,000 American scientists say will contaminate the atmosphere and cripple our future generations of children.

News & Letters

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Saul Blackman Managing Editor

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LEADERS & RANKS

I needed a seniority card, so I went to the local office and walked in. The girl in the office said, "May I help you?"

I said, "Yes you may. I need a seniority card."

She said, "We don't give them here."

I said, "I have to have it. May I see the president?"

She said, "Do you have an appointment?"

I said, "What do you mean? How do I go about getting an appointment?"

She said, "Go outside and call in."

I blew my stack. Then she said, "Well, you wait."

So I sat down. She went upstairs and then came down again and said, "What do you need this for?"

I said, "That's my business."

Finally she gave me a card to go to Outer Drive and there I got my card. Now, what do you think about that kind of Union leadership?

Production Worker,
Local 212, Detroit

We do hope the new official staff of Local 212 will do a better job than the old. We got no support from them whatsoever—nothing but lies, always.

We hope we won't have to call in for an appointment to see a man we have elected to look out for our welfare. We, the members of the Union, pay our money and he lives by it.

I wonder what happened to the men that were laid-off because they were told not to move dies. Did they get their jobs back and did they get the pay they lost, and who paid them? If the Local paid them, who told them to take Union funds to pay them?

Member, Local 212,
Detroit

The leaders of the Rank & File caucus came out with one leaflet and it was supposed to be a special blow up to catch votes. They kept it until the day before the election. They said they would put it in the shop. Then they claimed it had a lot of loopholes they might get sued for so they changed it and brought it in the day of the election. Now they claimed this was a No. 1 secret. As soon as the leaflet hit the plant, it hadn't got into the plant yet, the Reutherites had an answer to the leaflet, they both came in together. We didn't have illusions about what was going on.

Chrysler Worker
Detroit

Readers'

They just took out that additional 50c dues on the last pay check. The men in the department were really sore, but when the International first proposed it they didn't say a word or organize a Rank & File caucus like they did in Local 212 in Detroit.

I hope NEWS & LETTERS keeps on writing about the rank and file movement in Detroit so these guys out here can see the way to fight before Reuther slips something over on them.

GM Janitor
Los Angeles

This afternoon I got back from Twinsburg, Ohio, where Chrysler is moving its Mack Avenue plant.

If the Reutherites are taking credit for the Twinsburg agreement, I'm very, very happy, because it stinks. A frame home will cost a worker \$15,700, \$5,000 down.

There is no bus service from Twinsburg to the plant. Busses from Akron run every other hour. When I got off at Twinsburg everybody stared because nobody gets off there. I would have had to walk five miles if I hadn't got private transportation.

Chrysler-Mack
Worker, Detroit

Lewis was a good man once. He got the miners what they have today. But he's not the man he used to be. He used to be good for the miners, but he's let the machine take all their gains away from them.

He doesn't do anything about the mechanization. He says that's progress. You know who it's progress for? Lewis and the Consolidated Coal Corporation! Why should Lewis be against Automation? That machine can put out more coal than a man can. And it's tonnage that Lewis wants. The more tonnage, the more royalties Lewis gets for his treasury.

Lewis and the Corporation have the same interests at heart now—more coal, more tonnage. As far as the men are concerned—that's not his business any more.

Ex-Miner,
Wana, W. Va.

AUTOMATION

If intellectuals could manage production by themselves, they could solve all their problems. They wouldn't have to ask the workers for help, the way they do all the time. They have all these efficiency engineers now—about twice as many as ever before. But they still beg for suggestions, and

ideas for their "suggestion boxes," from us.

The only thing is, the way it works out YOU suggest and THEY eliminate. That's the way it all winds up—eliminating more jobs every time.

Steelworker
Pittsburgh

I was telling a friend of mine (whose husband is a steelworker and was telling us how many jobs had been cut out by new methods and new machines) about some of the college professors who don't see "Automation" as any genuine problem. The professors felt it might be an immediate problem to some of the workers who were thrown out of work, but that "in the long run," maybe 50 or 100 years from now, it would be a "drop in the bucket" and provide more jobs, "eventually."

She said, "I'd like to see what they'd say if they get some machines in the classrooms to do their jobs. Maybe one day they'll have a button you can push that will do the lecturing, or give classes by TV, and eliminate a lot of those jobs! Then I wonder what their attitude would be. I guess that's the only way people like that could ever understand just what Automation really is."

Committee-Member
West Virginia

Another 300 men got laid-off last Friday at the South Gate General Motors assembly plant. They've gone back now to laying off all men hired after September 1955.

In a plant like this, where the turnover is so great that few men last even one year, that is really cutting back. I myself am going back to Arkansas and will try to get along on the \$1.25 per hour I'll get back there.

Laid-Off
Los Angeles

The plant switched over to IBM time clocks and accounting methods several months ago in the interests of "efficiency." Well, they can keep their efficiency! Before they used to stagger our insurance and union deductions so not too much was taken out of each pay check. Now with IBM efficiency all the deductions are taken out of the first pay check of the month, and does that small pay check hurt!

GM Trim-Shop
Worker
Los Angeles

Views

NEGRO STRUGGLE

You can pick up a lot of papers and read about how Negroes are discriminated against and how the whites can even get away with bombing churches and homes. They had even confessed to doing it.

But you don't have to go down South to find out about discrimination. You can look in your own back yard, up here what we consider the North, and find out all about any discrimination you want to.

We don't have to fight the same battles of those people down there. They have their fight to win; but we have a fight to win, too. The fight has to be won both North and South, and there are plenty of whites who are disgusted with this whole business, just as the Negroes are.

Miner
West Virginia

When I asked an officer of my Local why no elected officials were Negroes, he said, "No Negro here has more than an 8th grade education."

I told him I had been on the honor roll throughout high school and had two years of college education. I made him look at my application to prove it. I'm not bragging about my education. Some of my friends have 4 years, but because of discrimination they're still production workers.

Education has nothing to do with ability to serve in the Union. The bureaucrats are using this lie as an excuse, along with many others.

Chrysler Worker,
Detroit

It's funny the way guys talk one way and then act another. I've been talking to one guy who says he is against all Negroes and that they should stay in their place. Yet in the Local Union election, when a Negro ran against a white for the position of vice-president, this guy was very open in his support for the Negro.

When I questioned him about this he said, "I don't care what I said before but in this case that Negro is the man for the job and there couldn't have been a better candidate." I just don't understand this but was glad to see this guy contradict himself.

G. M. Body-Shop
Los Angeles

Talk about justice! Look at what happened with those men who practically admitted that they had bombed the Negro churches in Alabama. The jury let them off free. This just as good as told any whites who want to bomb Negroes that they

can do it and nothing will be done to them.

If this doesn't stir up something down South where all this stuff is going on, nothing will. It just goes to show what all the colored people have said all along. The law is for the whites. If a Negro would do something like that, he'd be lynched. But if a white does something to Negroes, he's cleared.

Miner's Wife
West Virginia

I wish I could have hollered over the radio to Rep. Diggs when he said that Negroes have to respect themselves if we expect to gain full equality, by keeping the parks clean and not throwing papers and rubbish around.

I wish I could have hollered, "Why don't you say something about the garbage the city leaves in the alley ways? They come around once a month to collect it. In the park they have attendants to clean up."

Diggs should know better because his place of business is right where they never collect the garbage. He knows about it. It isn't just starting now. It has been going on for years. That would have been more important than talking about the parks.

Production Worker
Detroit

WAR & PEACE

Who killed the 338 Algerians last week? At first the papers said that Arab nationalists were responsible. French President Rene Coty called them "killers and agents of this horrible terrorism, which tramples upon all laws of God and man, in contempt of universal conscience," forgetting conveniently the terrorism of his government exercised against colonial people who want freedom. "Universal conscience"—whatever it is (how can it be universal if some people don't have it?)—apparently justifies one kind of terrorism while condemning the other.

Surely no one falls for the stock propaganda device of imperialism: ignore or glibly excuse "civilized" violence against exploited people and simultaneously attack every struggle for freedom as "barbarous."

Perhaps Coty spoke in haste, for the next day papers said that the French may have been responsible for the massacre.

Whether or not they murdered these 338 men, the French tyranny of the Algerian people is surely responsible for their deaths. The only solution is not more shooting but the complete withdrawal of the French. If there is a "universal conscience" I'm sure it justifies freedom.

M. G.
Detroit

(NOTE: We reprint, for the information of our readers, the following letter, to the Ambassador of Switzerland to Canada, of which we received a mimeographed copy in the mail.)

May I ask you respectfully to forward the enclosed money order to the Community Fund of Switzerland . . . for the relief I got from the above mentioned organization.

"I was obliged to accept the relief from the above mentioned . . . after my escape from Budapest in 1945 . . ."

"In order to obtain this relief, the Justice of Switzerland held me in the jail of Zurich for 10 months without trial in solitary by the most barbarous method. Before the trial I was 7 days in a dark cell, the Chamber of Democracy of Switzerland, where there is a hook in the wall with which to fasten the prisoner by a chain. This hook holds together the democratic Swiss? The last two days I was without light and food, contrary to the human right and the law of Switzerland . . ."

"When I was in the hole (without light and food) a representative of the 'Justice' of Switzerland, the turnkey Walter, had the airhole stopped up with a sheet . . ."

"This letter bears witness to the fact that the prisoner was allowed to walk half an hour weekly, instead of food the ward of the jail gave red water (soup of the democracy). This means barbarousness similar to the Nazi and N.K.V.D. System."

Z. Szoboszloi
Canada

With our tax money we are helping to rebuild the kind of governments that are the cause of all the human miseries of the world and the cause of the governments' own collapse. Now we, the USA, are building them up to start all over again with their tyranny, murder, slavery, exploitation . . .

We in the USA are trying to put over the same kind of a Dictatorship of the minds of the rank and file with our "witch hunts" and our "inquisitions" in the name of freedom . . . We will never have peace and freedom as long as we keep ourselves ignorant enough to allow such freedom-destroying practices to run rampant through our land . . .

We don't know that we aren't now in the process of being completely exterminated just by the testing of our Hydrogen and Atomic bombs . . .

Edgar Leslie
California.

TWO WORLDS

Scientists, Civil Rights, War & Peace

The pressure the Administration is putting on the 2,000 scientists who signed the petition calling for an end to H-bomb tests raises the whole question of civil rights in yet a new light.

Heretofore, we have associated the deprivation of civil rights with minority groups, mainly Negroes, and, secondarily, so-called Communist groups. In actuality, the anti-Communist laws are so broadly phrased that they can be, and are, used against labor.

It was also clear, when the Administration moved to deny Oppenheimer access to nuclear data (even data he himself developed), that on the question of "security" no one would be permitted to have any opinion that differed from that of the Administration. Still, his civil rights were not tampered with.

A NEW LOW IN BIGOTRY

Now, however, Senator Eastland—who is a bigoted master of depriving Negroes of their civil rights in the halls of Congress as well as in his home State of Mississippi—asked Dr. Linus Pauling, who circulated the petition against further H-bomb tests, to appear before his Senate Internal Security Committee. The whispering campaign is on that "Communists" are behind this act. (No doubt the same "Communists" who were on that bastion of anti-Communism, Formosa.)

The Administration told Dr. Pauling that he could not circulate the petition on Government property. If, in the process, the scientists' civil rights fell by the wayside, that was the least of the worries of our government bureaucrats. It is clear that there is no difference on either side of the Iron Curtain in the way scientists are expected to toe the narrow and crooked political path of their respective governments.

There is no greater breeder of genuine Russian Communism throughout Western Europe, as well as Asia, than just such actions by the Administration.

Here we have a case of 2,000 scientists—among whom are three Nobel Prize-winners, including Dr. Linus Pauling himself—who are so aroused by the harmful effects of the H-bomb tests, that, despite all pressure put upon them, it took only 2 days to collect these signatures. Nearly half of the signers are not nuclear physicists, but geneticists and biologists, concerned with the health of our nation at peace. Their manifesto naturally speaks of the dangers of man-made radiation, but it is addressed to the governments, not to the people. It asks for an international agreement to stop the testing of nuclear bombs.

It seems, however, that you cannot tell the truth on any subject whatever without inviting the "Communist" label. Evidently the only true patriots are those who are so hell-bent on war that they would endanger the lives of the nation at peace. Nothing indeed so exposes the hollowness of the peace, which is nothing but an interlude between wars.

BOTH SIDES OF THE IRON CURTAIN

The Russian prototype of Senator Eastland and President Eisenhower is the First Secretary of the Communist Party, Nikita Khrushchev. The excuse that this master of double-talk gives, for not even announcing H-bomb tests, is that Russia is such a vast land compared to the "smallness" of America.

Japan bears witness, however, that radiation fall-out in Siberia endangers the Japanese. There is no doubt at all that it also endangers the lives of the Russian people, but their rulers care as little for them as ours do for us. Both turn a deaf ear to the scientists as well as to the popular protests against these bomb explosions.

That this cannot go on forever, is seen from the fact that Britain did not dare to complete all of its tests.

The British authorities stopped short on the ground that they already gained "enough information" from the 3 explosions they did make. We do not know about the nuclear information thus gained, but we do not doubt at all the information they gained about the people's anti-war feelings.

Therein lies the whole, and only, answer to the mad rush to war on the part of the two state-capitalist giants—Russia and the United States. The working people alone can stop wars.

Capitalism, built on the exploitation of man by man, has brought our world into two world wars in a single lifetime. The fact that the inevitable Third World War seems to put the very survival of civilization into question does not stop this competition for world domination.

A STRUGGLE AGAINST TYRANNY

We live in an age of absolutes—on the threshold of full freedom out of a struggle against total tyranny. The lives of the working people depend not on exploitation of man by man, but on their freedom from capitalist exploitation. This spells a totally new way of life for all of humanity. The scientists will learn that and be among the working people, or they will end up as the scientists in totalitarian lands have ended—being a part of the war machine. The opposition to nuclear tests cannot and should not be divided from the opposition to war. The anti-war feelings of the people, not the international agreements which aren't worth the paper they are written on, is the only path to peace.

—R. D.

YOUTH

Thinking It Out

By Robert Ellery

AFTER VACATION, IT'S BACK TO THE GRIND

Summer is coming on and so is vacation time. A few guys at a time now take off for their week or two. It seems that the expectation of a vacation is always a lot better than the vacation. Resuming the depressing routine is an unsettling experience.

WHAT KIND OF LIFE?

One worker disgusted with the relentless pressure said "This kind of life in the factory couldn't be much worse than Russia. What's the difference what kind of politics they have outside if you have to suffer most of your wakeful hours in the factory? The foreman tells you if he thinks you're in the rest room too long. If you stay out for a day, you feel like you're committing a crime. Supervision sneaks around like the Gestapo trying to squeeze more work out of you and if you hurt yourself they tell you you're a fool for not working more carefully. The biggest jobs some of the white shirts perform is trying to make sure no one washes his hands on company time.

"If you really think about it this way of living is crazy. It seems like everyone is putting up with it because they're used to it. It really ruins people though. Even the foreman Mack (a former worker recently made a foreman) is going around telling everybody he thinks he can be foreman and still be a right guy. But you can see he doesn't believe it, and it bothers him.

FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE

"What kind of contract can Reuther get that will mean anything? A 30 hour week would wind up meaning you get 10 more over-time hours.

"A couple of more dollars or working a few less hours doesn't seem like a fundamental change.

"Vacations don't even mean much because you know what you've got to go back to.

"What ought to be changed is the way you have to work. Nobody would mind working more hours if the work was interesting and they were free."

Ninth Grader Calls Teacher "Ignorant"

Can you imagine making a ninth grade student stand in the corner for punishment? That's my English teacher, she things she's smart but she's pretty ignorant. She got me expelled once for wising off.

Half the class isn't in their seats when the bell rings but she always picks on me and has me stand in the corner.

When we have tests she sometimes tells the kids not to mark my paper. One time I went up and asked her why, she didn't answer me so I asked her again she still refused to answer. I decided I had better not answer back too much because when I get into trouble now they turn around and look at my girl. I also remembered what my father told me too, that, "Silence is the better part of valor."

I think the English teacher has a crush on my counselor because she always uses me as the excuse to go down to see him.

—Ninth Grader
Detroit

A Woman's Viewpoint

THE EDUCATED SNOB IS A FOOL

WEST VIRGINIA — So many educated people think reading books is education. Living is more education than any book in the world. It almost seems as if getting "educated" does something to you, and makes you a fool, instead of wiser.

WHO'S STUPID?

One of the fellows from Number Two Hill, where I used to live, went to college—some Negro college in the state. He came back all full of big words and the names of books he'd read, and he let everybody know that as far as he was concerned, if you weren't "educated" you were just plain stupid.

One day I just had to let him have it! I told him, "You think being well-read means so much, but even though I've never set foot in a college, and haven't read many books, I'd be willing to bet you right now that there isn't a subject you could bring up that I couldn't talk

to you about. There isn't a subject in the world, that's important, that the people around here you think are so far beneath you, don't know more about than you do.

IT'S HOW YOU USE IT

"It isn't how much education you have that's important, it's how you use it that's important. And you haven't been able to use all your book-learning for a thing, so far as we can see. Your education has made you a fool. And when someone pays good money, like you do, to become a fool, that doesn't seem very smart to me. You could have become a fool without paying a penny!"

When I got through, everyone started to clap me on the back and shake my hand. Our college boy didn't have a word to say. But he did learn one thing that day. He treated me with kid gloves from that day on.

—Miner's Wife

"Big-Hearted" Ruby Offers \$5,000 Scholarship

Morgantown, W. Va. — It made me sick when I read in the papers about Ruby giving a \$5,000 scholarship to the University. It was a big show, like everything else "big-hearted" Ruby does.

If he wanted to do something really worthwhile with \$5,000 he could have given it where it would do some real good—taking care of some of the unemployed around here, or feeding some of the kids all around here who are hungry. I have nothing against education, or going to college, but a scholarship seems pretty unimportant when people are going hungry.

Even if he really wanted to give the scholarship, to help someone out that way, instead of to make another headline, he would have given it anonymously. That's what a man does when it comes from the heart.

WORKERS KNOW

Ruby isn't fooling most people though, because all the working people know him for what he really is. The show was for the people who don't know him. To me, it's like buying a beautiful new curtain to hang over a dirty window. It hides the window, but the window is still dirty.

It reminded me of the way the government is sending all that money overseas "to help" over there—and pretending there aren't hungry people right here in this country who need help. Those are the kind of "shows" that make you sick to your stomach!!

—Housewife.

"WE LAUGHED—BUT IT ISN'T FUNNY"

WEST VIRGINIA — We had a round in one of the movies here, one time. They had a section in the back where the Negroes were supposed to sit. But there wasn't anyone on our whole side of the theater when my girl-friend and I went in one evening, so we just moved up aways.

The woman in there who was ushering came up to us and told us we'd have to move back. We said, "Move back? For what? There's nobody here but us!" And we just kept sitting there. She said somebody else might come in, but we just sat there.

Finally she sent a boy up to us, to tell us to move. My girl-friend told him if he didn't move his face away from in front of hers, she'd move him, and he hurried away. They were afraid we were really ready to start something.

We just sat there, and every time the woman walked by she'd roll her eyes at us—and we'd roll ours right back at her. After a while, a white woman did come in and sat down on our side. The usher-woman came back again and said, "I'm sorry, but you girls will just have to move back, now."

By this time, the evening prices had started—and we told her the only way we'd move was for her to give us our money back, and we'd move alright—we'd move right OUT of the movie, and see that they lost business over this, too!

Then we marched out, and demanded our refund. But since the prices had changed since we had gone in, we got more money back from them than we had even paid. We laughed about that for a long, long time. But it isn't funny.

H. S. Student Tells Parents to Face Problems

DETROIT—Whenever the subject of juvenile delinquency arises, and I am asked to give my opinion, I usually say that it is originally the parents' fault.

Most likely you would like to know my reasons for feeling this way. First, I believe it is mainly our parents' responsibility to rear the younger generation of today. Not the schools, church nor communities, as some parents seem to think.

IMMATURE PARENTS

Second, I feel that this reason is of vital importance. Some of our parents just aren't mature adults. They grow old without growing up. So when they encounter a crisis or an irritating problem they behave in an immature way. Usually they can only see their side of the problem and retreat from the problem any way.

Some parents seem to believe, "If I ignore it it will solve itself and go away." One way to pick out people like this is, when you mention something, somewhat unpleasant, they immediately let you know they would like you to be quiet.

CONSTANT QUARREL

Now let's take a parent who is literally on the extreme opposite. He's the person who can't keep friends, constantly quarreling or with someone and is usually supersensitive. To see a person like this, you'd think he never considered sitting down and calmly discussing a problem.

Then there is the over-protective parent, usually the mother, who has experienced an unfortunate incident and hasn't had the intelligence to outgrow it. What does she do? She tells you about the

experience in such a manner that some children live in mortal fear for a period of time. Eventually the children end up detesting their mother for even being told.

NO ESCAPE

There are parents who believe the way to solve problems is by escaping them. These parents usually resort to drinking or disappearing for a while. I suppose they see everything in a more optimistic light for a few hours if that long.

But what about after the rosy, glowing effect evaporates? The regular harshness of the day returns, they feel somewhat worse than before taking a dose of "humdrum reliever" and above all, the problem is still there.

My advice to parents is to take stock of the situation and face the problem directly so as to raise young men and women that they and the world can be proud of.

—High School Student.

"Eisenhower Youth Group"

At college there are always nick-names going around for the ROTC. I have heard them called "boy-scouts," "organization of disorganization," and so forth.

The other day at school, I met a friend of mine who is in the ROTC. He held both hands up in the air, as a person would to command attention and quiet the crowd, but in a stiff sort of soldierly manner. I did the same to go along with whatever joke he was pulling, and then asked him what it meant.

He told me that I must be a member of the "Eisenhower Youth Group" too, because that was their salute. This is the best nick-name I've heard yet!

W.V.U. Student
Morgantown, W.Va.

SUMMER WORK

West Virginia—Last year I worked for an Electric Power Company, for \$1 an hour (probably because that is the minimum wage). This year I decided to try to get on at one of the mines here.

There are a good many students trying to get on, and they put you through an I.Q. and Psycho-test which lasts 3 hours.

After my group had taken the tests, the other day, we started to come out of the building and one of the group stopped to talk to his wife who is the telephone operator there. When we were leaving the parking lot in the front of the Mine Office, he was leaning against his new Chrysler and talking to the personnel man. I wonder if that saying is true, that it isn't what you know, but who you know.

I also wonder if it's right to give students jobs when there are so many men around looking for jobs who have experience in the mines and have large families to support.

SONGS FOR SINGING SADLY

Lament, In Case . . .

God pity those who stormed the Nazi den
And laid their lives down. May their torments
cease
When they see us consorting with those men
Who killed them. Give their writhing souls some
peace.
Ten years. Who would have thought we could for-
get?
Their sacrifice was wasted after all.
Mad winds, raise storms on oceans of regret.
Long night, let your tormented shadows fall.

Hungary . . .

No flowers in Gethsemane,
Only the rose of a bleeding heart.
No birds to sing,
Only the cry
Of a human soul that's torn apart.

Algeria . . .

In the mountains, where the sun
Seems to nest,
Each rock has said, "unto your gun
They bare their breast."
In the desert, where the sand
Burns bitter with the country's pain,
The wind has said, "though you kill men,
Imprison, beat, and kill again,
Yet the people of this land
Shall remain."
In the cities, every street,
Every cobble, every stone
Says, "I shall feel my people's feet
When you are gone."

—Tom Malcolm

Negro Veteran Hates Whites--Tells Reason

I was working on the motor once with a young colored fellow, about 28 years old or so. He used to do some pretty mean tricks, and one day he cut my cable. I got plenty mad and was telling him off when the boss came up and wanted to know what the trouble was.

He made us get back on the motor and get to work, but from that minute on, it was plenty tense between us.

Finally, one morning, he said, "Look, we can't go on like this. We just can't run a motor this way."

I asked him what he wanted to do about it, and he said he wanted us to be friends. I said okay. A little later I asked him right out, "What the hell's the matter with you? How come you hate me so?"

THERE AND HERE

He said he had worked with white men all his life. Then he went into the Army and served under Patton in Italy. He got all shot up, and in fact he still limped from the shrapnel in his leg. He said, "Over there, it didn't make any difference. We all were in it together, we got shot together, and bled all over each other, it didn't make any difference what color you were over there."

Then, he said, he came back to the States. He was on a troop train going through one of the Southern States, and he had to go to the rest room. But when he started to go in, they stopped him and told him they didn't have any rest room for the colored there.

He said, "It was okay to get shot in Italy, but I couldn't even relieve myself when I got back in the States!"

He looked me square in the eye and said, "How would you feel?"

CAN'T BLAME HIM

What could I tell him? I said, "I don't blame you for hating them. But damn it, don't hate me for what they did!"

We kind of had an understanding after that, but I think he still had hate in him for all "white men."

You can't blame a man for being bitter, I guess—but what sense does it make to hate a man for what other men do?

West Virginia
Ex-Miner

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M.D.

PHYSICIANS COULD DO BETTER JOB

In Great Britain the physicians, nearly all employed by the state through the National Health Plan, have been complaining for years that their income is too low. Now many threaten to strike. The government, having resisted for a long time, is offering a 5 per cent increase.

Everywhere, except in the United States, the living level of the old professional groups seems to have declined. In Great Britain the lowered income of both working and middle classes reflect the economic difficulties of an industrial nation in the world market. But even in the United States in the midst of prosperity, there are forces tending to lower the income of most professionals; and particularly physicians. Both government and industry are contributing to this.

The American Medical Association has long blamed the difficulties of British doctors on "Socialized Medicine." But in the United States the forces that are tending to limit the physician's income are those also in opposition to so called socialized medicine.

The Veterans Bureau has numerous large hospitals and clinics all over the United States. These were built for the purpose of treating disabilities related to military service of over ten million veterans. However it is not difficult for a veteran to obtain free treatment for sickness, not even remotely connected with military service.

Thousands of men and women are daily involved in sickness and injuries that come from their work. These people must nearly always go to the physician selected by the insurance carrier of the plant. Only the physicians who are associated with the insurance company, and willing to work on their terms financial and otherwise are on the panel. Still more effective in cutting doctor's income are the medical and surgical insurance plans now widely sold through employers and labor unions. Insurance companies thus determine doctors' fees and conditions of work.

ECONOMIC PRESSURES CHEAPEN LABOR

This may all seem like a lament for the physician who is merely beginning to feel the economic pressures of a world system continually driving to cheapen human labor. For the past few years however we have been hearing increasing complaints from employers, from economists, from sociologists, and from efficiency experts, in industry, that people are not putting out the work they should be and are capable of. This has been blamed on laziness, or lack of education, on stupidity, and even on contrariness. In physicians we have a group not accused of any of these things. Many people are therefore surprised at the idea of physicians talking of strikes.

Strikes among physicians have occurred in other countries, and can happen here. Ethics of a guild or a profession are not strong enough to oppose basic economic and human needs. I believe that human beings naturally want to work, and are eager to put into their work everything they have. This is what gives them satisfaction, freedom from tensions, growth, and health. When men hold back or are indifferent to their work it is a response to something abnormal.

PHYSICIANS HOLD BACK

Today we find that many physicians are holding back. The concern with their income influences their work. In many doctors, this may not be anything conscious. In dealing with human sickness abnormalities stand out much more vividly, in all their immediate seriousness, than when dealing with the products of a factory. The terrible distortion of existing human relationships then is seen more clearly.

I am sure that the physician who is not pressured by his income or is not disturbed in his work by outside and unnecessary factors determining the conditions and conduct of his work, could do a much better job than he is doing now.

REUTHERITES UP TO THEIR OLD TRICKS

DETROIT—It seems that the Reutherites are back at their old tricks at an early date. The understanding now is that they are moving the door department, which is department 79, away from the Mack plant.

They are handing out the same old line that the worker can go with the job. But I wonder if it won't be the same line that they gave us production workers when they were talking about the Twinsburg job. I am wondering if they will be as cautious with us now as they were on that job.

They told us before the election that they would

make Chrysler pay all of our expenses in moving and the loss of our places or homes. It wound up that all we get is our Union privileges and our seniority. The only privileges out of our Union are that we have one week to sell our homes and make our arrangements and be down there ready for work. We production workers think that is all we will get out of this one, if we even get that much.

DETROIT WORKER SENT BACK FROM TWINSBURG AFTER ONLY TWO DAYS

Five men out of Local 212 were transferred to the Chrysler plant at Twinsburg, O., the other week. Two are still down there. The other three have been sent back.

I know one of them. He had to go down at his own expense. They kept him hanging around the office all that day. He had to pay for his own room that night. The next day they kept him hanging around again. Then they told him that he had been sent down too early, and they didn't have any work for him, and to go back to Detroit—at his own expense. I haven't seen him back to work here yet.

Before he went down there he believed what the Company and the Union said and sold his home. Now he's got nothing.

That's the "agreement" Chrysler and Reuther were bragging about, and urging the workers to take. And do you remember ex-president Caruso bragging how the Union would force the Company to pay a man's moving expenses and stand the loss he might have to take if he sold out to move to Twinsburg? Ask this worker about it.

Chrysler-Mack Worker
Detroit

When 20 Years Isn't 20 Years

The man that lost his seniority was an old timer who had worked hard to get the Union in. He had been one of the first to hold a Union office. He was fired in 1948 and brought back in 1949, but lost all his seniority.

A couple of weeks ago they held a party for those workers that had 20 or more years seniority. This old timer wasn't invited even though he has been in the plant more than 20 years.

They gave them little pins, which many workers threw away. They said what made them even madder was the fact that the 20-year men who were Reuther's supporters were sitting up on the stage and the rest down in the hall.

I saw ex-president Caruso just the other day and asked about the party and how come this old time worker wasn't invited. Caruso said, "Oh well, he has 20 years with the Union but NOT with the COMPANY."

Disgusted
Detroit

S. Africa Boycott Effective Despite Pressure

News & Letters (May 14) reported that the South African government tried to break the recent bus boycott in Johannesburg by eliminating bus service completely. More recent information printed in the European press has shown that the boycott proved to be more successful than the authorities admit.

The boycott of 145,000 Africans started when the bus company, last New Year's Day, raised the fare one penny. To the African, whose wage is only a few dollars per week, this meant a further restriction of his already insufficient diet. Because of segregation laws

Africans are restricted to living miles away from the cities where they work. Even before the raise in fare they were spending too much of their income on transportation.

The boycott was 100 per cent effective in spite of efforts by police to "protect" anyone who wanted to ride the buses. For several months, boycotters would start out at 4 in the morning, walk 12 miles to work, work a full day, and then walk back to their homes, arriving at 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening.

As the weeks went by, absenteeism from work began to develop. Also, Africans curtailed their purchases in

Johannesburg stores. The green buses marked "for colored only" were riding empty and the bus company was losing money. At this point bus service was discontinued completely, in an attempt to break the back of the boycott. But the boycott continued in the form of absenteeism and economic pressure against employers and merchants.

In desperation, the employers and merchants offered a "solution." They set up a special fund to pay the additional penny per passenger which the bus companies insisted upon as a condition of resuming service and the people paid the old 4-penny rate.

Our Future and Our Children's

(Continued from Page 1)

world by atomic warfare, the ordinary people throughout the world are demanding an immediate ceasefire by both sides. The diplomats and the politicians, however, continue to "talk to death" the question of "controlling" the tests, while the deadly particles continue to be belched into the atmosphere.

The Russian government, which exploded at least seven tests earlier this year, is now making political hay out of its current declarations of willingness to come to some agreement. The United States is worrying how best to handle that situation, in order not to lose further in the propaganda battle between the two giants for the minds of the world. Meanwhile, both Russia and the United States are continuing to make their bombs and explode them, and to "play" with the question of how many concessions to make.

LIFE VS. DIPLOMACY

The question, however, is not one of "diplomacy" or "propaganda value" or "politics" to the ordinary people throughout the world. It is a question of survival in a world racing to its destruction at the hands of the diplomats and the politicians.

Throughout the world, the scientists themselves are divided into two camps. Not the camps of "Russia" or "America," but the camps of "fire" or "cease-fire." All of the scientists in the world-wide debate agree that the radio-activity and the fallout can do no good, and constitute a "risk." But there are those in the one camp—like Dr. Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Prize winner and medical missionary in Africa, and Dr. Linus Pauling, Nobel Prize winning American biochemist, who are pleading for an immediate end to all further tests, precisely because of the terrible risk to future generations—and those in the other camp, like Dr. Libby of the Atomic Energy Commission, who continue to insist that while there is undoubtedly a "risk," it is "worthwhile" and nothing really to worry about.

WORLD-WIDE PROTESTS

Much less publicized, but far more powerful than the debates between either the politicians or the scientists, however, are the popular protests mounting in country after country. These people are not involving in debates on the question. They have a determined answer to the question: "Stop the tests, and stop them now!"

In Norway's larger cities, such as Oslo, Bergen and Stavanger, people have been standing in lines by the hundreds to sign a public statement which says simply, "We think Albert Schweitzer is right."

In West Germany, where the Russian army is stationed just across the border, and the German people consider that each test brings them that much closer to an all-out war, a current public opinion poll showed that 81 per cent were opposed to all further atomic tests. Public opinion in Germany against the tests is so strong, in fact, that it is credited with forcing the Adenauer regime there to put through the recent resolution in Parliament calling on the nuclear powers on both sides, to suspend their tests, at least temporarily.

In Italy, the Communist Party, which is the strongest west of the Iron Curtain, plays down all Russian tests. In spite of this, a violent wave of protest swept the country when the Milan Observatory reported that radio-activity over Italy had doubled after a recent nuclear explosion by Russia.

In India, the press is unanimously opposed to all bomb tests, and the most frequent question asked is: Why are the bomb tests held in the Pacific, near Asian rather than Western countries?

WAR OR PEACE

That the ordinary people throughout the world are not concerned with taking diplomatic sides is emphasized by the obvious fact that the protests are against all tests, Russian, American, or British.

So strong has the world-wide protest become that the "debates" in the United Nations, in Parliaments and Congresses, have reached a critical stage. There is little reason for the people of the United States, or the world, to expect that a vote of politicians will solve the question! Their decisions on further testing will be dictated only by the mad race between Russia and the United States for complete world domination.

The question of ending the tests, with their known danger from radio-active fallout, is ultimately a question of war or peace. The popular protest against continued tests is more than a strong protest against the mad race toward an all-out atomic war. It is a symbol of the only hope for peace and a sign that the people the world over are not willing to let their rulers force them into another war.

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

ALGERIA

The world was shocked when a band of Algerian Nationalists swooped down on the Algerian village of Melouza and slaughtered 303 men of the village. The French Army retaliated next day by rounding up as many "suspects" as they could find and butchering 169 of these in a single day. The hunt goes on and every day more Algerians die at the hands of the French. As the score stands, it is the Algerian people who are being slaughtered.

In Algeria there are two rival groups, the Arab National Liberation Front (FLN) and the Algerian National Movement (ANM). Each blames the other for the attack on the village. Both strive to dominate the country in the interests of the old feudal Arab leadership. FLN has called for help from Ike, The Pope and Voroshilov, people like themselves. It is doubtful if they will get much aid from these.

There is, on the other hand, the Algerian Labor Movement, which has been suppressed by the French. The French have recognized only two labor groups in Algeria, The Force Ouvrier (CFTC), and the Communist controlled CGT. The CGT has been the most successful in organizing Algerian workers, who joined it to bore from within and form their own independent organization. Thousands of oppositionists have been imprisoned for trying to build unions in opposition to these French dominated unions.

Despite the efforts of the French, the Nationalist trade union leaders have gained control of the miners, dockers, transportation and tobacco workers' unions.

They state, "Algerian labour wants to form a free national trade union federation in order to organize all workers regardless of race or religion. Only the prevailing political conditions—state of emergency, military and police repression, absence of all liberties—prevent the establishment of such a federation."

Workers there, who work an average of 150 days a year, make 91 cents a day.

RED CHINA

Recent "secret speeches" of Mao Tse-tung reveal a growing wave of discontent on the mainland of China.

Mao reports "contradictions between the masses and their leaders," due to, "the just but frustrated desires of the people." It is quite apparent from the nature of the complaints that a bureaucracy has grown up

in China which stands between the masses and their desires. Mao reports 13 strikes in the past year. 118,000 Kwangtung peasants have left the collective farms and refused to return.

To try and correct the situation Mao has instituted a campaign of "Unite, Criticize, Unite Again," which he hopes will provide a safety valve for the resentment of the masses against the bureaucracy. To set examples, he sent 33 generals and 127 field grade officers of the army to work a day at a collective farm. The Minister of Marine Products spent the day as a fish-monger.

While this might prove inspiring, it did not fill the rice bowl of a single peasant.

FORMOSA

The destruction of the American Embassy in Chiang's dominated Formosa by an angry populace should demonstrate that everything on this island is not as peaceful as the newspapers would have you think it is.

That this demonstration should be "communist dominated" is laughable. Chiang Kai-shek has, without any resort to fair play or justice, murdered anyone who has opposed him, communist or not. That 30,000 such, should suddenly appear in front of the American Embassy only exposes the lies that have been spread by him and his American Senator Knowland.

On the other hand, the people of Formosa, who so violently objected to the freeing of the American murderer of one of their people, are themselves not free to express themselves.

Formosa was not and is not now a part of China any more than is Japan. It is a country, first dominated by Japan and then "given" to Chiang by the Americans. It is high time we began to think of the freedom and the self expression of the people who are native to the country, the Formosans. The hatred of American domination cannot be suppressed by martial law. It is only driven underground.

KENYA

The "democracy" which the British are returning to Kenya, for the first time since the Mau-Mau rebellion, is a farce. They carefully selected 130,000

natives and qualified them as "voters" out of a native population of 5,500,000. They were then permitted to vote for 8 black members of the National Legislative council where 14 other members will represent 42,000 white people, 6 will represent 158,000 Indians and one other for the 31,000 Arabs in the country.

The leader of the group of 8 Africans is 28-year-old Tom Mboya, who seems to have politics similar to England's Bevanites. He is a good friend of the American labor bureaucracy and has secured \$35,000 from them to finance an office for the Kenya Labor Federation. Even he had to demand more representation in the government. The 8 native Kenyan representatives are with him. That shows the strength of the colonial movement, no matter how watered down the democracy the British imperialists institute.

HAITI

The government of Haiti has been in constant turmoil since the ouster of President Paul Magloire in December on charges of grafting.

On May 25, Pierre Fignole was installed in the office of President of the country after a day of street demonstrations in which the government took to its heels. Fignole is the leader of the Workers and Peasants Party and has been an aggressive labor leader in Haiti since 1946. He represents the black people of the country who do all the work.

His main opponent, Louis DeJoie, represents the mulatto shop keepers and businessmen of the island republic.

There has been constant turmoil over the race question in Haiti between the oppressed blacks and the mulatto "upper class" since the days of Toussaint L'Ouverture, the black man who first obtained the freedom of the country from the French. The mulattoes betrayed him and have ruled ever since. Now, the revolt of the blacks has succeeded.

(Since the above was written, the Fignole government has fallen to a military junta who have unleashed violence against the workers.)

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